THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) No, Sir. Central Sector Cattle Insurance Scheme was launched in the year 2000 on pilot basis in eight selected districts of the country *viz.* Nagaur (Rajasthan), Gumla (Jharkhand), Ratlam (Madhya Pradesh), Yavatmal (Maharashtra), Dharamapuri (Tamil Nadu), Mahboobnagar (Andhra Pradesh), Jajpur (Orissa), Lakhimpur Kheri (Uttar Pradesh). The scheme has not been approved for continuation in theX-Plan.

(b) to (d) Question does not arise.

Enforcement of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980

†*465. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that developmental activities have been affected badly in tribal areas, due to enforcement of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereto;

(c) whether Government would consider making the Act flexible, so that development activities in tribal areas are not affected; and

(d) if so, what would be the nature thereof?

THE MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T. R. BAALU): (a) to (d) Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 regulates diversion of forest lands for non-forestry purpose for maintaining integrity of forest cover. Forests provide several usufructs in meeting the sustenance of livelihood needs of the tribals including food during lean period. The act, being regulatory in nautre, has enough flexibility to permit development activities beneficial to the tribals living in the forests or on the forest fringes without causing permanent damage to the forest eco-system.

Decline in consumption of foodgrains

*466. SHRI RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the per capita consumption of foodgrains during the period 1980-1990 and 1990-2000, separately;

(b) whether it is a fact that per capita consumption of foodgrains is on the decline; and

(c) if so, Government's reaction in this regard?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.